

REMARKS:

Claims 1-44 are currently pending in the subject application.

Claims 1-44 are subject to the Restriction Requirement. The Examiner states that the claims are directed to two separate inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-30, 32, 34, and 37-44, drawn to a vibration isolator or absorber; and

Group II: Claims 35 and 36, drawn to a method of controlling the acoustic radiation of a ship.

The Examiner alleges that the claims within Group I and II do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. The Examiner alleges that the groups lack the same or corresponding special technical features, as required under PCT Rule 13.2. In particular, the Examiner states that the vibration isolator of Group I can be used to serve purposes other than controlling the acoustic radiation of a ship. The Examiner also states that the acoustic radiation of the ship may be controlled by some means other than the use of a vibration isolator as set forth in Group I.

Applicants elect, without traverse, to pursue the claims of Group I, i.e., Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-30, 32, 34, and 37-44, in accordance with the applicable rules of practice and to advance the prosecution of the subject application.

The Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation or divisional applications to pursue the unelected claims.

CONCLUSION:

This Response to Restriction Requirement is being filed via the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's EFS-Web electronic filing system. No fees are deemed to be necessary; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 502806**.

Please link this application to Customer No. 38441, so that its status may be checked via the PAIR System.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 1/16/09

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